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10407/521

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PATENT ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10407/521

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In te Application of:

James Morrow et al.

Serial No.:

09/967,283

Examiner: Yveste Gilberte Cherubin

Filed:

September 28, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3713

Title:

RECONFIGURABLE GAMING MACHINE

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PROPOSED DISCUSSION TOPICS WITH RESPECT TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir.

This is an attachment to form 413A - Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form.

CURRENT STATUS

Claims 1-20, 30-46, 48-50, and 57-59 are pending in the present application. In the detailed action, claims 8 and 46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as requiring clarification. Claims 1-7, 30-45, 48-50, and 57-59 were rejected in the Office Action summary, but were not addressed in the detailed action. Applicants are unclear as to why claims 1-7, 30-45, 48-50, and 57-59 have been rejected. Applicants respectfully contend that the differences between the claimed invention and the prior art are such that the claimed invention is patentably distinct over the prior art.

BRMFSLA 48732v1

Atty Docket No.: 10407/521 Serial No. 09/967,283

DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph - Claims 8 and 46

Claims 8 and 46 are pending in the present application and were rejected in the Office Action dated November 04, 2004 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as requiring clarification. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claims 8 and 46 are independent claims.

The Examiner states that the specification provides enablement for the terms "standalone" and "remote," but that the Examiner is unclear how a "stand-alone" device can be remotely reconfigured. The Examiner further states that she believes that a "stand-alone" device, by definition, does not require support from another device or system, such as a network. As such, the Examiner has requested clarification.

Claim 8 recites, "A stand-alone gaming machine, comprising: a plurality of screens that display video content for a game of chance located on the stand-alone gaming machine, wherein all of the video content for a different game of chance is remotely reconfigurable." The Examiner is correct insofar as the invention of independent claims 8 and 46 does not require support from another device or system in order to function, i.e., all of the video content for a plurality of games is stored locally on a stand-alone gaming machine. However, Applicants submit that this recitation does not prohibit any interaction whatsoever between the gaming machine and any non-local (i.e., remote) component. Accordingly, in the invention of claims 8 and 46, the reconfiguration of the stand-alone gaming machine is remotely triggered. Applicants further submit that this type of interaction is supported by the specification and is soundly within the clear meaning of the terms "stand-alone" and "remote." If the Examiner disagrees with this position, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate what part of the specification is not in accord with this clarification.

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Atty Docket No.: 10407/521

Serial No. 09/967,283

Claim Rejections - Claims 1-7, 30-45, 48-50, and 57-59

Claims 1-7, 30-45, 48-50, and 57-59 are pending in the present application dated November 04, 2004, and were rejected in the Office Action summary, but were not addressed in the detailed action. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Applicants can only assume that this rejection is somehow related to the rejection of claims 8 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. If the Applicants assumption is correct, then the Applicants submit that this rejection has been overcome by the clarification provided above. If the Applicants assumption is not correct, then the Applicants require further explanation to adequately respond to this rejection.

Atty Docket No.: 10407/521 Serial No. 09/967,283

CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest and bona fide effort to clarify the issues before the Examiner and to place this case in condition for allowance. In view of the foregoing discussions, it is clear that the differences between the claimed invention and the prior art are such that the claimed invention is patentably distinct over the prior art. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of all of Applicants' claims 1-20, 30-46, 48-50, and 57-59 is believed to be in order, and an early Notice of Allowance to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner should have any questions concerning the foregoing, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (310) 712-8319. The undersigned attorney can normally be reached Monday through Friday from about 9:30 AM to 6:30 PM Pacific Time.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 11/22/04

BROOKE W. QUIST

Reg. No. 45,030

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BWQ:elm

	Applican	t Initiated I	nterview Requ	est Form		
Application No.:			Applicant: Jam		4-	
Examiner: Yvest	e Cherubin	Art Unit: <u>371</u>	3 Status of Ap	oplication: Pen	ding	
Tentative Particip (1) Brooke W. Q			(2) Yveste	Gilberte Cheru	bin	
(3)			(4)			
Proposed Date of	Interview: 11/	23/04 Pr	oposed Time: 1	BD (AM/)	PM[≥])	
Type of Interview (1) Telephonic Exhibit To Be Sho If yes, provide bri	(2) [own or Demon	_	s 🗆 no	Video Confe	• 10	
~			Be Discussed			
Issues	Claims/	Prior	Discussed	Agreed	Not Agreed	
(Rej., Obj., etc)	Fig. #8	Art			[]	
(1) <u>Sec. 112</u>	<u>8 and 46</u>		H	H		
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An interview was cond NOTE: This form sho MPEP § 713.01). This application will n interview. Therefore, as possible.	ould be completed or the delayed fro	l by applicant and m issue because of	submitted to the exact applicant's failure to	submit a written	record of this	
Applicant/Applicant's I	Representative Sig	nature	Exam	Examiner/SPE Signature		
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